

Message Text

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51

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10

RSC-01 OMB-01 TAR-02 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 OIC-04 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00

CIEP-02 CEA-02 SCI-06 L-03 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 EPA-04

CEQ-02 RSR-01 /209 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1518

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: UNCTAD TDB - ITEMS 6 AND 11A

REF: GENEVA 4671

BEGIN SUMMARY: BY END OF SECOND WEEK SESSIONAL COMMITTEE 1 OF TDB COMPLETED DISCUSSION ITEMS 6 AND 11 A EXCEPT 6A (COMMODITIES). NO RESOLUTION INTRODUCED YET BECAUSE AFRICANS REFUSE SUBSCRIBE TO ANYTHING FAVORED BY ASIANS/LATIN AMERICANS UNTIL DISPUTE ABOUT INCLUDING COFFEE IN INTENSIVE COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS RESOLVED. TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY APPEARS BE ISSUE TO WHICH LDCS ATTACH GREATEST INTEREST. IF COFFEE PROBLEM SOLVED, LARGE NUMBER OF UNACCEPTABLE RESOLUTIONS ANTICIPATED AS LDCS AND GROUP B REMAIN FAR APART ON ACCUMULATION OF DISAGREED ISSUES ARISING FROM PAST YEAR'S WORK IN SUBSIDIARY BODIES. END SUMMARY.

1. OVERSHADOWING OTHER ISSUES IN SESSIONAL COMMITTEE 1

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(AND TDB ITSELF) HAS BEEN SHARP CONFLICT BETWEEN AFRICANS

AND LATIN AMERICANS (ESPECIALLY COLUMBIA) ON WHETHER COFFEE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN TIMETABLE FOR INTENSIVE COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS. LATIN AMERICA OBJECTS TO UNCTAD INVOLVEMENT IN DISCUSSION OF MARKET ACCESS FOR COFFEE. AFRICANS SO FAR HAVE INSISTED THAT WITHOUT INCLUSION OF COFFEE (AND, WITH SOMEWHAT LESSER EMPHASIS, PHOSPHATES) AFRICANS HAVE NOT ACCEPTED ANY REPEAT ANY INTENSIVE COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS. AFRICANS ARE HUNG UP ON OAU MINISTERIAL DECISION THAT ALL FOUR ITEMS ON AFRICAN PRIORITY LIST MUST BE INCLUDED (ONLY COFFEE AND PHOSPHATES MISSING FROM UNCTAD SEC GEN TIMETABLE THROUGH MARCH 1974). TO INCREASE THIS LEVERAGE AFRICANS HAVE REFUSED PERMIT ANY RESOLUTIONS ON ANY SUBJECT TO BE PRESENTED TO TDB OR SESSIONAL COMMITTEE IN NAME OF GROUP OF 77. TEN DAYS OF AFRICAN-LA BILATERALS HAVE FAILED PRODUCE AGREEMENT OR COMPROMISE. GROUP B NEUTRAL ON THIS DISPUTE.

2. OTHER ISSUES RELATING TO INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS INCLUDE: INDIAN INSISTENCE HARD FIBERS INCLUDE COIR, TEA INCLUDES TEA IN PACKAGES, OILSEEDS INCLUDES OIL CAKE; SPANISH INTERPRETATION OILSEEDS INCLUDE OLIVE OIL; SECRETARIAT AFFIRMATION TIMETABLE THROUGH MARCH 1974 SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS END OF LINE--OTHER PRODUCTS CAN BE ADDED OR SECOND ROUND CAN BE SCHEDULED ON SOME OF SAME PRODUCTS "IN AGREEMENT WITH GOVERNMENTS" PER RESOLUTION 7 (VII) OF COMMITTEE ON COMMODITIES. INDIA ALSO RECOMMENDED REFERRAL OF DIVERSIFICATION RESOLUTION TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PREFERENCES. NONE OF THESE ISSUES FORMALLY DECIDED IN ABSENCE DRAFT RESOLUTION/ DECISION.

3. COCOA MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION STUDY WILL BE REVISED IN LIGHT EXTENSIVE CRITICISM FROM BOTH PRODUCER AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES. SECRETARIAT AND CONSULTANTS WHO PREPARED REPORT INITIALLY TOOK RATHER STIFF DEFENSIVE LINE BUT WERE MORE MODEST AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF INFORMAL DISCUSSION WITH DELEGATES OF FRANCE AND GHANA. U.S. SAT IN ON DISCUSSION. OTHERS CONTENT TO LET WRITTEN CRITICISMS STAND. LDCS NOT DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH COCOA OF COURSE WELCOMED STUDY AND URGED IMMEDIATE PREPARATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SIMILAR ONES FOR OTHER PRODUCTS WITH TIMING GEARED TO INTENSIVE COMMODITY CONSULTATIONS.

4. 6B (MANUFACTURES AND PREFERENCES) DEBATE PERFUNCTORY AS THERE ARE PRACTICALLY NO ISSUES CALLING FOR TDB ACTION. LDCS APPARENTLY WILLING LET LDC DECLARATIONS ON VARIOUS MTN-RELATED ISSUES PASS TO SPECIAL SESSION OF MANUFACTURES COMMITTEE IN MID-1974. NUMBER OF GROUP B REPS INCLUDING

US HOPE TO AVOID SADDLING MANUFACTURES COMMITTEE WITH SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEM ON ENVIRONMENT LEST ALL OTHER UNCTAD COMMITTEES EMULATE; GROUP B GENERALLY WOULD PREFER KEEP ISSUE IN TDB ALONE. OUTCOME UNPREDICTABLE AT THIS STAGE.

5. ITEM 6C (INVISIBLES AND FINANCING) EVOKED MORE ACTIVE DEBATE WITH LDC REPS GENERALLY COMMENTING IN TERMS OF UNRELIEVED GLOOM AND FREQUENT REFERENCES TO CATASTROPHIC DEBT SITUATION. NUMEROUS NEW OR OLD RESOLUTIONS WILL PROBABLY SURFACE SHORTLY IF AFRICAN-LA IMPASSE RESOLVED. LDCS APPEAR BE ESPECIALLY KEEN TO REWRITE DD II TARGETS AND UNDERLYING AID CONCEPTS, UNIMPRESSED WITH CONTRARY ARGUMENTATION OF SEVERAL B REPS. RECONVENING EXPERT GROUP LIKELY BE MINIMUM STEP THIS AREA.

6. ITEMS 6D AND E (TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY) SEIZED UPON BY LDCS AS MAJOR ISSUE FOR SESSION. THIS MAY IN PART REFLECT FRUSTRATION OVER REST OF AGENDA WHERE AFRICAN-LA IMPASSE HAS PRECLUDED ANY SOLID GROUP 77 POSITION AND IN PART FACT THAT TECHNOLOGY ISSUES CAN BE AND ARE PRESENTED AS PURELY PROCEDURAL. LDCS INSIST ON INSTANT TRANSFORMATION OF IGG INTO PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF TDB. AFTER LISTENING TO PERHAPS 50 LDC INTERVENTIONS TO THIS EFFECT, SOME OF THEM LASTING 45 MINUTES, THERE IS ONLY ONE RATIONALE FOR TRANSFORMATION USDEL HAS BEEN ABLE TO DETECT: IF UNCTAD DOESNT ESTABLISH PERMANENT MACHINERY, IT WILL BE LEFT BEHIND BECAUSE MANY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ARE ALREADY MOVING INTO SUBJECT AREA ON A PERMANENT BASIS, E.G., ECOSOC, WIPO, UNIDO. MORE SERIOUS ISSUE, NAMELY CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, ALSO BEING PUSHED STRONGLY BY LDCS ESPECIALLY LATIN AMERICA. LDCS ACCUSE THOSE OF GROUP B WHO ARE AGAINST WORK ON CODE (A DWINDLING AND WAFFLING NUMBER) AS SIMPLY STALLING. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFTEL DEALS WITH THIS SUBJECT IN SOMEWHAT MORE DETAIL.

7. ITEM 11A (COMPREHENSIVE INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION). LATIN AMERICA (LED BY BRAZIL) RECEIVED STRONG SUPPORT FROM EASTERN EUROPE PARTICULARLY POLAND AND USSR FOR PROMPT STUDIES BY UNCTAD SECRETARIAT TO HELP PAVE WAY FOR TRANSFORMATION OF UNCTAD INTO AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING ITO--SOME CALLED FOR MORE EMPHASIS ON DEVELOPMENT THAN TRADE ALONE, E.G., AN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE ORGANIZATION. GROUP B UNITED IN JOINT STATEMENT THIS IS NOT THE TIME. LDCS WILL SETTLE FOR STUDIES AND FEW IN B WILL OBJECT.MILLER

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